REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-7, and 9-12 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 7 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 2 and 8, respectively, which have been canceled without prejudice. The amendments are fully supported by the specification as originally filed.

The title was objected to as not being descriptive. A new title is provided which is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

In response to the drawing objections, attached is a replacement sheet of FIG. 3, which includes start and end points, as required in the Office Action. It is presumed that the drawing objection concerns FIG. 3 (not FIG. 2), because FIG. 2 merely illustrates the system architecture, and thus would not include start or end points. No new matter has been added. Approval of the drawing correction is respectfully requested.

Applicants' claimed invention is directed to a method and system for reading authorized data, for allowing a user at a terminal device to obtain data generated by an application service provider (ASP). For example, the system of claim 7 includes: a database for storing data generated by the application service provider; a processing module for receiving a data-reading request from the terminal device and searching in the database for data requested by the user according to the data-reading request, wherein if the data requested cannot be found in the database, the processing module submits a data-reading inquiry to the application service provider in a request for comment (RFC) manner; and a downloading module for receiving requested data from the application service provider and storing the data in the database.

The Applicants' claimed invention can provide significant benefits. By submitting the data-reading inquiry to an ASP website in a request for comment (RFC) manner, the ASP can search for data corresponding to a RFC document number, as recited in claims 1 and 7. In other words, the RFC document number sent by the system enables the ASP to access documents categorized according to that RFC document number, so that appropriate documents are quickly

and easily retrieved. Moreover, in accordance with the Applicants' invention, load is decreased on the ASP website, thereby reducing operating costs (see specification at page 7, 3rd paragraph).

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,112,206 to Morris et al. (hereinafter "Morris"). Claims 2 and 8 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morris in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0023873 to Ben-Itzhak (hereinafter "Ben-Itzhak"). Claims 4, 6, 10, and 12 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morris in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0172135 to Bobick et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 now incorporates the subject matter of claim 2, and claim 7 incorporates the subject matter of claim 8. Therefore, the rejection over Morris in view of Ben-Itzhak will be specifically addressed.

As indicated on page 5 of the Office Action, "Morris does not specifically teach 'data-reading inquiry to the application service provider in a request for comment (RFC) manner, so as to allow the application service provider to search in a database server thereof for data corresponding to a RFC document number in the data-reading inquiry'" (page 5, 2nd paragraph).
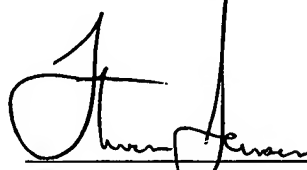
In the Office Action, Ben-Itzhak was cited for "using RFC document as an encoding language" (paragraph 0066) (Office Action, page 5, 3rd paragraph).

However, as indicated in paragraph 0066, <u>Ben-Itzhak uses ASCII encoding based on the HTTP standard</u>. The phrase "Request for Comments ("RFC") document number 2068" refers to a specific document which defines the HTTP standard. A copy of the first page of this document is attached for the Examiner's convenience – please note the document header: "Request for Comments: 2068" which identifies the document. This HTTP standards document is quite lengthy, and can be accessed at: <u>http://www.cse.ohio-state.edu/cgi-bin/rfc/rfc2068.html</u>.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Ben-Itzhak does not teach or suggest submitting a data-reading inquiry <u>in a request for comment (RFC) manner, so as to allow the application service provider to search in a database server for data corresponding to a RFC document number in the data-reading inquiry</u>, as recited in claims 1 and 7.

It is believed the application is in condition for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1.1

Status of this Memo

This document specifies an Internet standards track protocol for the Internet community, and requests discussion and suggestions for improvements. Please refer to the current edition of the "Internet Official Protocol Standards" (STD 1) for the standardization state and status of this protocol. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

Abstract

The Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) is an application-level protocol for distributed, collaborative, hypermedia information systems. It is a generic, stateless, object-oriented protocol which can be used for many tasks, such as name servers and distributed object management systems, through extension of its request methods. A feature of HTTP is the typing and negotiation of data representation, allowing systems to be built independently of the data being transferred.

HTTP has been in use by the World-Wide Web global information initiative since 1990. This specification defines the protocol referred to as "HTTP/1.1".

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